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The Thoreau Society, Inc., is an informal gathering of students and admirers of Henry David Thoreau. Frederick Wagner, President; Mary Anderson, Treasurer; and Walter Harding, Secretary. Address communications to the Secretary at State University College, Geneseo, N.Y. 14454. Dues, $10 a year; Friend, $15 Family, $25; and Life Membership, $500. Dues should be sent to The Thoreau Society, 156 Belknap St., Concord, Mass. 01742, where the society maintains The Thoreau Lyceum

HARVARD IN THOREAU'S DAY by Andrew Preston Peabody.

[Editor's note: Andrew Preston Peabody, who graduated from Harvard a few years before Thoreau entered, remained associated with Harvard for most of the rest of his long life as a faculty member, preacher to the university, and twice for short periods as acting president. His Harvard Reminiscences (Boston: Ticknor & Co., 1888) gives a lively series of sketches of Harvard faculty members over the years (including a number who had taught Thoreau) and concludes with the following chapter, there entitled "Harvard College Sixty Years Ago," one of the vividest pictures of Harvard in Thoreau's day that we have seen.]

THE last sixty years can hardly have wrought greater changes, whether superficial or radical, anywhere else than in Harvard College. In my time a student's room was remarkable chiefly for what it did not have, — for the absence of all appliances of elegance and comfort, I might almost say, of all tokens of civilization. The feather-bed — mattresses not having come into general use — was regarded as a valuable chattel; but ten dollars would have been a fair auction-price for all the other contents of an average room, which were a pine bedstead, wash-stand, table, and desk, a cheap rocking-chair, and from two to four other chairs of the plainest fashion, the bed furnishing seats when more were needed. I doubt whether any fellow-student of mine owned a carpet. A second-hand-furniture dealer had a few defaced and threadbare carpets, which he leased at an extravagant price to certain Southern members of the senior class; but even Southerners, though reputed to be fabulously rich, did not aspire to this luxury till the senior year. Coal was just coming into use, and had hardly found its way into college. The students' rooms — several of the recitation-rooms as well — were heated by open wood-fires. Almost every room had, too, among its *transmittenda*, a cannon-ball supposed to have been derived from the arsenal, which on very cold days was heated to a red heat, and placed as a calorific radiant on a skillet, or on some extemporized metallic stand; while at other seasons it was often utilized by being rolled downstairs at such time as might most nearly bisect a proctor's night-sleep. Friction-matches — according to Faraday the most useful invention of our age — were not yet. Coals were carefully buried in ashes over night to start the morning fire; while in summer, as I have elsewhere said, the evening-lamp could be lighted only by the awkward, and often baffling, process of "striking fire" with flint, steel, and tinder-box.

The student's life was hard. Morning-prayers were in summer at six; in winter, about half an hour before sunrise in a bitterly cold chapel. Thence half of each class passed into the several recitation-rooms in the same building (University Hall), and three-quarters of an hour later the bell rang for a second set of recitations, including the remaining half of the students. Then came breakfast, which in the college commons consisted solely of coffee, hot rolls, and butter, except when the members of a mess had succeeded in pinning to the nether surface of the table, by a two-pronged fork, some slices of meat from the previous day's dinner. Between ten and twelve every student attended another recitation or a lecture. Dinner was at half-past twelve, — a meal not deficient in quantity, but by no means appetizing to those who had come from neat homes and well-ordered tables. There was another recitation in the afternoon, except on Saturday; then evening prayers at six, or in winter at early twilight; then the evening meal, plain as the breakfast, with tea instead of coffee, and cold bread, of the consistency of wool, for the hot rolls. After tea the dormitories rang with song and merriment till the study-bell, at eight in winter, at nine in summer, sounded the curfew for fun and frolic, proclaiming dead silence throughout the college premises, under penalty of a domiciliary visit from the officer of the entry, and, in case of a serious offence, of private or public admonition.

This was the life for five days of the week. On Sundays all the students were required to be in residence here, not excepting even those whose homes were in Boston; and all were required to attend worship twice each day at the college chapel. On Saturday alone was there permission to leave Cambridge, absence from town at any other time being a punishable offence. This weekly liberty was taken by almost every member of college, Boston being the universal resort; though seldom otherwise than on foot, the only public conveyance then being a two-horse stage-coach, which ran twice a day. But the holiday could not be indefinitely prolonged. The students who were not present at evening prayers were obliged by law to register their names with the regent before nine o'clock, under a heavy penalty, which was seldom or never incurred; for the regent's book was kept by his freshman,[1] who could generally be coaxed or bribed to "take no note of time."

The price of board in commons was a dollar and

three-quarters, or, as was then the uniform expression, "ten and sixpence." The dining-rooms were on the first floor of University Hall. College officers and graduates had a table on an elevated platform at the head of each room, and the students occupied the main floor in messes of from eight to ten. The round windows opening into the halls, and the shelves set in them, still remaining in some of these rooms, were designed for the convenience of waiters in bringing dishes from the kitchen in the basement. That kitchen, cooking for about two hundred persons, was the largest culinary establishment of which the New-England mind then had knowledge or conception, and it attracted curious visitors from the whole surrounding country; while the students felt in large part remunerated for coarse fare and rude service by their connection with a feeding-place that possessed what seemed to them world-wide celebrity. They were not the only dependants upon the college kitchen, but shared its viands with a half-score or more of swine, whose sties were close in the rear of the building, and with rats of abnormal size that had free quarters with the pigs. Board of a somewhat better quality was to be had at private houses for a slight advance on the college price; while two or three of the professors received select boarders at the then enormous charge of three dollars a week. This last arrangement, except when known to be peremptorily insisted on by some anxious parent, exposed a student to suspicion and unpopularity; and, if one of a professor's boarders received any college honor, it was uniformly ascribed to undue influence catered for on the one side, and exerted on the other, in consequence of this domestic arrangement.

From what has just been said, it may be inferred that the relations between the Faculty and the students were regarded, as has been already intimated, on one side at least, as those of mutual hostility. The students certainly considered the Faculty as their natural enemies. There existed between the two parties very little of kindly intercourse, and that little generally secret. If a student went unsummoned to a teacher's room, it was almost always by night. It was regarded as a high crime by his class for a student to enter a recitation-room before the ringing of the bell, or to remain to ask a question of the instructor; and even one who was uniformly first in the class-room would have had his way to Coventry made easy. The professors, as well as the parietal officers, performed police duty as occasion seemed to demand; and in case of a general disturbance, which was not infrequent, the entire Faculty were on the chase for offenders, — a chase seldom successful; while their unskilled manœuvres in this uncongenial service were wont to elicit, not so much silent admiration, as shouts of laughter and applause, which they strove in vain to trace to their source.

The recitations were mere hearings of lessons, without comment or collateral instruction. They were generally heard in quarter-sections of a class, the entire class containing from fifty to sixty members. The custom was to call on every student in the section at every recitation. Each teacher was supposed to have some system, according to which he arranged the order of his daily calls. Some, like Dr. Popkin, openly adopted the direct, some the inverse, alphabetical order, some the two alternately. As for the key to the order adopted by the others respectively, there were, generally, conflicting theories, the maintenance of which brought into play a keenness of calculation and a skilful manipulation of data fully adequate to the solving of deeply involved algebraic equations. Of course, the endeavor — not always unsuccessful — was to determine what part of a lesson it was necessary for each individual student to prepare.

The leading feature of the college at that time was the rich provision made for courses of lectures. It may be doubted whether so many lecturers of an exceptionally high order have ever, at any one time, been brought together in the service of an American college. We had courses on physics and astronomy by Professor Farrar, of whose surpassing eloquence I have already spoken; on technology, by the late Dr. Bigelow; on anatomy, by Dr. John Collins Warren; on hygiene, by Dr. Jackson; on law, by Chief Justice Parker; on French and Spanish literature, by Professor Ticknor; on the canon of the New Testament, by the elder Dr. Ware. It is my belief, that, with the then existing materials and means of knowledge, neither of these courses admitted of any essential improvement; and several of the lecturers had extended fame as speakers and writers in the outside world. By far the largest part of our actual instruction was that of the lecture-room, where it was our custom to take copious notes, which were afterward written out in full for our permanent use and benefit.

As regards the amount of study and of actual attainment, it was, I think, much greater with the best scholars of each class, much less with those of a lower grade, than now. I doubt whether such students as used to constitute the fourth quarter of a class could now reach the sophomore year. A youth who was regular in his habits, and who made some sort of an answer, however wide of the mark, at half of his recitations, commonly obtained his degree, though his college-life might have been interpolated by an annual three-months' suspension for negligence. But the really good scholar gave himself wholly to his work. He had no distractions, no outside society, no newspapers, no legal possibility of an evening in Boston, no probable inducement to spend an hour elsewhere than within college-walls, and not even easy access to the college library. Consequently, there remained for him nothing but hard study; and there were some in every class whose hours of study were not less than sixty a week.

The range of study was much less extensive than now. Natural history did not then even profess to be a science, and received very little attention. Chemistry, under auspices which one does not like to recall, occupied, and utterly wasted, a small portion of the senior year. French and Spanish were voluntary studies, or rather recreations; for the recitation-room of the kind-hearted septuagenarian, who had these languages in charge, was frequented

more for amusement than for any thing that was taught or learned. Italian and German were studied in good earnest by a very few volunteers. There was a great deal of efficient work in the department of philosophy; and the writing of English could not have been cared for more faithfully, judiciously, and fruitfully, than by Professor Channing. But the chief labor and the crowning honor of successful scholarship were in mathematics and the classics. The mathematical course extended through the entire four years; embracing the differential calculus, the mathematical treatment of all departments of physical science then studied, and a thoroughly mathematical treatise on astronomy.[1] In Greek and Latin, the aim, as has been already stated, was not so much to determine grammatical inflections and construction, as to reach the actual meaning of the author in hand, and to render his thought into perspicuous and elegant English. This aim was attained, I think, to a high degree in Latin; and with the faithful and searching study of the Latin text, there grew up inevitably the sort of instinctive knowledge of Latin grammar, which one conversant with the best English writers acquires of English grammar, without formal study. Such grammatical tact and skill were acquired by a respectable number of Latin scholars in every class; and the number was by no means small of those who then formed a life-long taste for Latin literature, and the capacity of reading it with all desirable ease and fluency. Greek, for reasons given in my sketch of Dr. Popkin, was studied with much greater difficulty, and, when with similar, with much less satisfactory and valuable results. The best scholars were often discouraged in the pursuit of knowledge under hindrances so grave, and had resort to contraband methods of preparation, which required little labor, and were of no permanent benefit.

These are a few of the many illustrations which I might give of the contrast between the Harvard of to-day and that of sixty years ago; and they may render some help in answering the question whether the former days were better than these; while they may not altogether satisfy the class of persons characterized by those eminently graphic verses, —

> "Qui redit ad fastos, et virtutem æstimat annis,
> Miraturque nihil nisi quod Libitina sacravit."

It remains for me to give some account of the college buildings, as they were in my time.

The principal buildings were within the college-yard, then unenclosed, and extending but a few feet to the rear of University Hall. Within this area there were seven buildings, all still standing, and but little changed in their exterior aspect.

The pride of college architecture, then comparatively new, was University Hall. Its basement was devoted to culinary and menial uses. The lower story had four apartments, built as dining-rooms, for the four classes severally. Whether the two inner rooms were ever so used, I do not know; but I think not. Of the two other rooms, one was occupied by the senior and sophomore, the other by the junior and freshman, classes. By this arrangement each pair of adjacent classes, always supposed to hold relations of mutual antagonism, were fed apart, and had different doors of entrance and egress. The chapel — its site still marked by long, arched windows — filled the space between the two entry-ways and staircases in the second and third stories. There were seats on one side for the seniors and sophomores, on the other for the juniors and freshmen, with different entrance-doors, so that there might be no hostile collision on the stairs. In front of the pulpit was a stage for the public declamations and exhibitions, and on each side of it a raised sentry-box, occupied at daily prayers by a professor or tutor on the watch for misdemeanors. Opposite the pulpit was the organ, with a double row of raised seats on each side, — one for the choir, the other for parietal officers and graduates. There were two side-galleries, where were pews for the families of the professors and of a few persons more or less remotely connected with the college. At the southern end of the building, where are now the offices of the president and the dean, there were in the second story two rooms, commonly called the corporation rooms. That in the rear contained such models and apparatus as were used by Dr. Bigelow in his lectures on technology, with settees in sufficient number to accommodate his classes, the average number of a class being then less than sixty. The front room no undergraduate ever saw. It was opened only at two of the three public exhibitions, when the corporation made their semi-annual official visit to the college, and dined in that room with their invited guests. At a later period dinners were served there for committees of examination. Above these rooms were two recitation-rooms, which, with four in the second and third stories on the northern end, sufficed for the regular daily recitations in philosophy, mathematics, Latin, and Greek. There was originally, on a level with the lower story of this building, a roofed piazza, which was removed during a period of rigid discipline, as it was said, to check the "grouping" of students, which used to be a penal offence, two having been a sufficient number to constitute a group; while, in at least one instance, an extra-zealous proctor reported a solitary student as evidently waiting to be joined by another, and thus offering himself as a nucleus for a group.

Harvard Hall had then the same bell that hangs in it now. There was also connected with the bell a clock which struck the hour, and which presented two dial-faces, — the same clock, which, still the property of the college, gives note of time from the steeple of the First Parish Church. The upper story of the building was devoted to the library, which filled the western, and had begun to overflow into the eastern, apartment. In the lower story the western room contained such apparatus as belonged to the departments of physics and astronomy, with very well arranged seats for Professor Farrar's classes. The eastern room was called the mineralogical cabinet, and had in it a considerable quantity of rock, but few specimens of value, having been depleted rather than enriched during several previous years.

Holden Chapel had been floored over, midway, so as to make two stories. On the lower floor was the chemical laboratory, with an adjacent lecture-room; in the second story, the anatomical cabinet, with a lecture-room lighted from above, cheerful, airy, and by far the most beautiful apartment then appertaining to the college.

There were on college-grounds four dormitories,—Massachusetts, Hollis, Stoughton, and Holworthy. The first three of these were arranged substantially on the same plan, each with thirty-two rooms, of which two in each building were occupied by tutors or proctors; one or two in Massachusetts, and one in Hollis, used as modern-language recitation-rooms; one in Stoughton, assigned to a scientific society of undergraduates; those on the lower floor reserved for freshmen, and the rest allotted to applicants belonging to the three upper classes, in accordance with some numerical gradation of claims, the key to which was lodged, if anywhere, in the steward's inmost consciousness. The lower rooms and the rooms of the parietal officers were fitted with blinds. These last were also provided with a sufficiency of plain, substantial furniture, of a quality not much inferior to what would be deemed fitting for a servant's room at the present day. They also had bedrooms built over the entrance-hall, and so had the third and fourth story rooms above them. In these tutors' rooms there was one fixture which, as already obsolescent in the knowledge of living men, deserves special commemoration. They were all furnished with genuine Franklin stoves, said to have been almost coeval with the invention. I doubt whether there still exists a Franklin stove. The stove that bears the name is simply an iron fireplace, which required for its invention no scientific genius. Franklin's stove — I have read the description as he wrote it — has two iron backs, with an air-chamber between them, an opening into that chamber from the external air, and an aperture from that chamber on each side of the stove, from which a current of heated air is poured into the room. This is, indeed, the germ of the hot-air furnace, which is simply a Franklin stove set in the cellar. I have had large experience with various descriptions of heating-apparatus, and I have never found ample heating-power, pure air, and economy of fuel, combined so efficiently as in Hollis No. 7, which I occupied as tutor. Holworthy had, in my time, but four stories (the fifth having been recently added), and twenty-four rooms, each, as now, with two bedrooms. Three of these rooms were occupied by college officers, the three under them by freshmen, the remaining eighteen by such seniors as had the highest numerical claim, in order to obtain which students often petitioned in the two previous years for rooms of the lowest grade; as, according to a commendably equitable rule, those who had had the most could claim the least. Justice in the assignment of rooms in successive years, which was certainly intended in the steward's allotment, was the more obligatory, inasmuch as the rents of college-rooms were equal, and the best room in Holworthy in the senior year was no more than an offset for a three-years' occupancy of the poorest rooms in Massachusetts.

The president's house, now called Wadsworth House, was within the college-yard. The president's study, or office, was where the printing-office now is; and his freshman occupied the room below.

On the present site of the First Parish Church, there were two old wooden buildings, one of three, and one of two, stories, which were designated in the catalogue as College House 1 and 2. In the lower story of one of these, there used to be a barber's shop, also a shop with a workroom in the rear, kept by two ladies of an impoverished branch of an old Cambridge family. This shop supplied such small articles of haberdashery as the students required: and they resorted to it for the mending, and even for the making, of apparel; for it was believed that the skill of the average country tailor was transcended by these experienced workwomen. They also had a lucrative investment in the gowns worn by students at exhibitions and on Commencement Day, for the use of which the fee was two or three dollars, according to the quality. The gowns were of the flimsiest texture and of scanty amplitude; and, as they were worn by a very considerable number of students four times a year, they must have paid six per cent. on a capital of at the least five thousand dollars. The lower story of the other College House was the seat of the then infant Law School. The upper stories of these buildings were occupied, in part, by undergraduates who could not get rooms within the college-yard; in great part, by certain ancient resident graduates who had become water-logged on their life-voyage, by preachers who could not find willing hearers, by men lingering on the threshold of professions for which they had neither the courage nor the capacity, notably, by Jonathan Peale Dabney, of whom my older readers need no description, and whom no descriptive power of mine could make conceivable to those who did not know him, — in fine, by such waifs of literary purlieus as in these faster days would be speedily blown away, and as since those old garrets were pulled down have found no shelter in Cambridge.

The only other buildings belonging to the University when I entered college, so far as I know, were the Botanic Garden house, — which has for many years been the home of Dr. Gray, — and the Medical College in Boston. Divinity Hall was erected while I was in college, and dedicated in the month in which I graduated.

[1] Every parietal officer had freshmen living under him, who were subject to his order for college errands, and some of whom, like the regent's freshman, performed important services, and received an adequate compensation.

[2] Gummere's, afterward replaced by Farrar's almost purely descriptive treatise.

THE 1986 annual meeting of the Thoreau Society will be held in the First Parish Church in Concord, Mass., on Saturday July 12. Speakers will include Jacques Barzun, Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Columbia University, and David Shi, author of The Simple Life. On Friday evening Joseph

Kopycinski of Lowell will speak on the Merrimack Canal, which Thoreau traversed on his Week journey, and on Saturday afternoon we hope to have arrangements for either a barge trip on the remaining portion of that canal or on a portion of the Merrimac River. Further details will be given in the spring bulletin.

The nominating committee, consisting of Esther Almgren, Parker Huber, and Edmund Schofield, present the following slate of officers to be voted on at the annual meeting in July: Michael Meyer, president; Walter Harding, secretary; and Mary Anderson, treasurer--all for terms of one year; and members of the board of directors for three years: Richard Lebeaux and Donald Worster. Further nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting by any member.

John Clymer announces the appointment of the current lyceum committee: Esther Almgren (chair), Sue Altshuler, Mary Anderson (ex-officio), Thomas Blanding, John Clymer (ex-officio), Sharon Crawford, Malcolm Ferguson, Sylvia Klinck, John McAleer, Edmund Schofield, and Frederick Wagner (ex-officio)

We are grateful to Frederick Wagner who has donated one thousand dollars to the Thoreau Society to establish the Marilyn Blaisdell Fund, income from which is to be used to maintain the archives of the Thoreau Society. Marilyn Blaisdell, wife of Thomas Blanding and long active in the Thoreau Society, passed away this past summer after a long illness.

WANTED

The Thoreau Society urges you, its members, to recruit one additional member. Ask a friend, colleague, student, relative, or a nearby library to join. For $10 members receive the Bulletin, and The Concord Saunterer in addition to free admission to the Lyceum in Concord. Even if only half the present membership is successful in recruiting new members, our rolls would increase by some 800. New members will significantly increase our revenues; those funds are sorely needed now in order to continue our present level of activities. Please help by having a friend fill out the enclosed form and signing on.

ADDITIONS TO THE THOREAU BIBLIOGRAPHY...WH

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Bond, W.H. "A Wall-Tree" Country Journal February, 1986. p. 59. A poem.

Byron, Gilbert. The Sight of a Marsh Hawk Trappe, Md.: Unicorn Bookshop, 1985. Includes two poems on Thoreau: "On Walden Pond"(pp. 32-4), "Thoreau's Attic" (pp. 35-38), plus two haiku on Thoreau, pp. 15 & 24.

Cameron, Sharon. Writing Nature: Henry Thoreau's Journal. New York: Oxford, 1985. 173pp. $17.50. Miss Cameron's little volume is an extremely difficult one to evaluate. Her central thesis is that Thoreau's Journal is his major work and rather than being a mere source book for his other writings, it is an intentional and intrinsic work of art in itself. Those views, or at least the latter one, are ones that many Thoreau scholars have arrived at in recent years. Although I agree heartily with her thesis, I find it embedded in the most convoluted obscurantist style I have run into in some time. Sentences seem to go on forever, clause after clause, and with an astounding number of them filled with one, two, or even three parenthetical comments interrupting one's train of thought. She often tends to over-analyze Thoreau's sentences and to read into them ideas I doubt Thoreau intended. She might do well to make more use of Occam's razor. But despite all the negative things I have had to say about it, the book has its high points. I agree heartily with its central thesis. Her lengthy reassessment of Perry Miller's Consciousness in Concord is long overdue. She makes many perceptive remarks such as, "Thoreau's Journal is to us what nature is to Thoreau." (pp. 106-7) The book as a whole is difficult plowing, but I think it deserves multiple readings, and with these I imagine further insights will emerge from the convolutions.

Fleck, Richard F. Henry Thoreau and John Muir among the Indians. Hamden, Conn.: Archon Books, 1985. 103pp. $17.50. A collection of three essays on Thoreau's interest in the American Indian, John Muir's interest in Thoreau, and Muir's interest in the Indian and Eskimo, plus selections from both Thoreau's and Muir's unpublished manuscripts on the Indians. Included also is a fragmentary and previously unpublished essay by Thoreau on "primal culture." Fleck points out that Emerson at one time apparently tried to persuade Muir to edit Thoreau's unpublished manuscripts and that Muir made many notes on Thoreau in his edition of Thoreau's works now at the University of the Pacific. We hope that someday (1) Thoreau's Indian notebooks (now in the Morgan Library) will someday be published in full, and (2) that someday someone will make a comprehensive study of Muir's notes on Thoreau.

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a boy's adventures in the woods inspired by Thoreau.

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Thoreau, Henry David. "Cutting Walden." Sanctuary, 25 (Dec. 1985), 9-11. Excerpt from Walden.

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-----. Walden. Trans. into Portugeuse by E.C.Caldas. Intro. by Brooks Atkinson. Rio de Janeiro: Edicoes de Ouro. 1968. 350pp.

-----. A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers/Walden/The Maine Woods/Cape Cod. New York: Literary Classics of the United States, 1985. 1114pp. $27.50. A volume in the new "Library of America" series. A compact, beautifully printed collection into one volume of Thoreau's four book-length works. Notes, which are chiefly identifications of Thoreau's quotations, are by Robert Sayre. The texts are carefully edited for accuracy. There is a table of typographical errors in the first editions and a detailed chronology of Thoreau's life. An excellent handy volume of four of Thoreau's major works.

Williams, Donald H. "Lady of the Woods: Some Correspondence of Fannie Hardy Eckstorm" Colby Library Quarterly, (March 1985), 28-33. Includes many comments on Thoreau.

We are indebted to the following for information used in this and other recent bulletins: W.Anderson,J.Afflitto,W.Bly,L. Beaulieu,D.Barto,D.Bowden,R.Borst,J.Barrett,A.Bula,R.Chapman,J.Cooney,M.Detterline,J.Dawson,R.deMiller,F.Dedmond,M. Doudna,C.Dietrick,J.Duban,M.Ferguson,V. Friesen,M.Fischette,F.Flack,R.Fleck,L. Gougeon,M.Grant,R.Gozzi,R.Galvin,D.Grace, W.Glick,J.Hunter,P.Huber,D.Hannan,V.Halburt,E.Heginbotham,G.Hendrick,E.Johnson, D.Kamen-Kaye,A.Kovar,H.Klumpjan,G.Lowden, G.Mazarakis,J.Mason,G.McIlory,L.May,M. Meyer,M.Merrifield,R.Michelfelder,J.Michel, J.Nickols,P.Neureiter,P.Oehser,J.Oremland, A.Pointe,R.Poland,G.Ryan,G.Rouse,E.Schofield,M.Sperber,E.Shaw,H.Schon,C.Seib,D. Sargent,E.Smith,R.Thompson,H.Uhlig,M.Urbansky,J.Vickers,M.Wright,M.West,P.Williams, H.Wahlgren,F.Wagner,E.Withell,S.Waring,L. Yoos,A.Zwinger,E.Zeitlin,F.Ziegler, and J.Zuithoff. Please keep the secretary informer of items he has missed and new items as they appear.

A DUNBAR GENEALOGY by Nahum Mitchell

[Editor's note: Thoreau's maternal grandfather was Asa Dunbar of Bridgewater, Mass. The following genealogy of the Bridgewater Dunbars was compiled by Naham Mitchell in his now rare History of Bridgewater, Massachusetts (Bridgewater, 1840), pp. 149-153. Most of the abbreviations used are standard, but "B" refers toBridgewater, "W.B." to West Bridgewater, and "N.B." to North Bridgewater, now Brockton.]

DUNBAR.—1. James Dunbar (from Hingham) settled early in W. B., m. Jane, D. of Isaac Harris, and had Robert 1689, who d. 1706, and was called "the only surviving son of James Dunbar, who came from Hingham;" the father d. 1690; and Jane, the wid. m. Pelatiah Smith.—Robert (of Hingham) his will 1693; his w. Rose, had John, Joseph, Joshua, Peter, James, (above deceased) Mary, Sarah, and Hannah.—Mary m. Isaac Harris.

2. Peter (s. of Robert above perhaps) came from Hingham a. 1706 and settled in B.; his wife, Sarah; had Josiah 1708, John 1709, David 1711; bought a place of Jacob Leonard 1724; had other children before he came here, viz.: Peter, Sarah, Abigail, and perhaps others.—Peter was guardian to John and David, who were called his brothers, 1725.—Sarah m. Thomas Alger 1724.—Abigail m. Joshua Fobes 1711, she might have been sister to Peter, and not his D.

3. James (s. of James of Hingham perhaps) m. Experience D. of Samuel Hayward 1721, and had James 1721, Betty 1723, Josiah 1725, Jerusha 1727, Mary 1730, and Jesse 1742.—Betty m. Nathan Kingsley of Easton 1744.—Jerusha m. Nath'l Ward 1751.—Mary m. Dan Leonard 1750.

4. Elisha (s. of James of Hingham) settled in N. B. Mercy, D. of Nathaniel Hayward 1727, and had Abigail 1729, Jacob 1730, Lemuel 1731, Elisha 1735, Seth 1737, Nathan 1739, Peter 1741, and Silas 1743.—Elisha, the father, d. 1774.—Lemuel was a captain in the French war, and d. 1762.—Abigail m. Andrew Gilmore 1752.—Elisha m. Rebecca Wade 1757, D. of Thomas Wade, and had Keziah 1762, Rebecca 1764, and went to Stoughton.—Seth m. Deborah Belcher 1766 and had Deborah 1766, Rebeckah 1768, Bethiah 1770, Joanna 1772, Seth 1775.—Nathaniel went into the war with his brother Lemuel, was taken prisoner and died.—Peter m. Relief, D. of Capt. Theophilus Curtis 1764, settled in Easton, and had Simeon who m. a Bird and lives in N. B.—Bethiah m. Apollos Randall 1776.

5. Samuel (s. of James of Hingham) m. Melatiah D. of Joseph Hayward, and had Sarah 1733, Mehitabel 1735, Samuel 1737, Melatiah 1741, and Hannah 1743; he then married Mary, D. of Dea. Thomas Hayward 1745, and had Asa 1745, Robert 1746, Daniel 1748, Peter 1750, Simeon 1752, Barnabas 1755, Thaxter 1758, and Caleb 1760—Sarah m. Elijah Snow 1767.—Mehitabel m. Jonathan Copeland 1754.—Melatiah m. Capt. Jesse Howard 1761.—Hannah m. Daniel Snow, Esq., 1764.—Asa grad. H. U. 1767, and settled in the ministry at Salem 1772, and afterwards as a lawyer at Keene, N. H., and d. 1788.—Robert m. Betty, D. of Jona. Kingman 1770, and had Azel 1774, Oliver 1776, and removed to Belchertown.—Daniel m. Abigail, D. of Henry Kingman 1771, and had Asa 1771, and went to George's River, Me.—Thaxter m. Phebe, D. of James Alger 1779, and d. young leaving a D. Phebe, who m. David Harvey.—Caleb m. Hannah Drake 1782, and settled in Easton.

6. David (s. of Peter 2) m. Susanna, D. of Thomas Hayward 1738, and d. 1788, and had Susanna 1739, John 1742, David 1746, and Jemima 1747; his w. died 1749; he then m. Sarah Blake 1749; she d. and he then m. Mercy Soul 1763, and had Rhoda 1763, Abel 1767, Mercy 1769, Silvester 1772, and Walter 1775.—Susanna m. Samuel Bartlett 1757.—John m. Mary Keith of Easton 1768.—Abel m. Sarah Howard 1784.—The wid. Mercy m. John Fann 1781.—Abel m. Phebe Brett 1805.—Walter m. Lydia Rider of Mid'o. 1796, and had Elizabeth 1796.

7. James (s. of James 3) m. Hannah, D. of John Benson 1746, and had Seth 1748, Benjamin 1749, Elizabeth 1752, Mary 1754, Benson 1757; she d. 1757, and he m. Martha wid. of Jeremiah Conant and D. of Daniel Packard 1757, and he had Hannah 1760.—Seth (called Seth, Jr.) m. Lois Boyden of Walpole 1767.—Elizabeth m. Seth Washburn of Mid'o. 1776.—Benjamin m. Wealthy Washburn of Mid'o 1773.—James the father d. 1778.

8. Capt. Josiah (s. of James 3) and his w. Mary had Hannah 1755, Mary 1757; his w. d. 1757, and he m. Silence, wid. of Nehemiah Packard and D. of Samuel Edson 1758, and had Josiah 1760; his w. d., and he m. wid. Abigail Shurtliff 1798, and d. 1800, æ. 75.—Josiah m. Abia Goodspeed 1782.—Mary m. Oliver Packard 1785.

9. Jesse (s. of James 3) m. Azubah, D. of Jeremiah Conant 1762, and had Susanna 1763, Jeremiah 1764, Martha 1768, Elias 1772, Lydia 1777, Dinah 1780, and Keziah 1782.—Susanna Dunbar m. Caleb Alden of Mid'o. 1787.—Elias m. Roxilinia Leach 1799.—Keziah m. Simeon Wood of Boston 1809.

10. Jacob (s. of Elisha 4) m. Hannah Randall 1756, and had Ebenezer 1757, Hannah 1758, Anna 1760, Mercy 1763, Jacob 1768, Lemuel 1771, and Thomas 1773.—The mother d. 1775.—Lemuel m. Polly Morey 1795 and went to Maine. Thomas went to New York.—Jacob the father m. Thankful Thayer 1776.—Hannah m. Eleazar Snow 1780.

11. Silas (s. of Elisha 4) m. Amy, D. of Thomas Reynolds 1772, and had Patty 1773, Pamela 1775, Elisha 1777, Amy 1779, Silas 1780, Reuel 1783, Josiah 1785, Oliver 1788, Thomas 1790, Joseph 1792, and Perez 1794.—Capt. Silas m. Susanna, D. of Joseph Reynolds 1806, and went to Me.—Reuel m. Nancy, D. of John Willis 1805.—Josiah m. Sibil, D. of Mark Perkins 1807, and had Josiah, Lemuel, Mark, Francis and Daniel.—Thomas m. Hannah, D. of Seth Thayer 1810.—Joseph m. Sophronia, D. of Isaac Allen 1812, and had Sophronia Allen 1812, Matilda Allen 1814, Isaac Allen 1816, Franklin Dunbar 1830, Sibil Perkins 1833.—Perez m. his brother Reuel's wid. 1821.—Patty m. Joseph Reynolds 1798.—Pamela m. Thatcher Ewell 1800.—Amy m. Levi Ramsdell 1801.—Oliver m. Sally, D. of John Willis 1807.

12. Samuel (s. of Samuel 5) m. Mary, D. of William Snow 1758, and had Elijah 1759, Oliver 1761, Lemuel 1763, Samuel 1765, and Alpheus 1769.—He removed to Mid'o. Elijah settled in Keene, N. H., as a lawyer.—Samuel went to T. and m. an Ingell.

13. Peter (s. of Samuel 5) m. Alice, D. of James Alger 1773, and settled in S. B., and had Polly 1775, Patty 1777, Shepard 1779, Lemuel 1781, Bethiah 1783, Peter 1785, Silas 1788, Martin 1791, Phebe 1794, William 1796.—Polly m. Marlboro' Conant 1796.—Lemuel m. Cordana, D. of Ezra Fobes 1806.—Phebe m. Shepard Fobes 1814.—Shepard m. Abigail Bassett 1806.—Patty m. Calvin Edson 1797.—William m. Eunice Mitchell.—Bethiah m. Levi H. Perkins 1804.—Martin m. Sally Alger 1812.

14. Doct. Simeon (s. of Samuel 5) m. Abigail, D. of Rev. Elijah Packard 1781, and had Sophia 1781, George 1783 went away, William 1785, Asa 1787, Charles Frederick 1795; 2d w. Mary, D. of Dr. Richard Perkins, m. 1804, no children.—He d. 1810.—William m. Sarah, D. of John Snow 1807, and had Simeon 1808. William 1809, Mary 1811, Abigail 1813. John 1815, Sarah Ann 1817.—Charles m. Susanna Willis, D. of Zebulun 1717 and had Irene Willis 1820.

15. Barnabas (s. of Samuel 5) m. Silence, D. of Joseph Alger 1780; she d. and he m. Molly, wid. of Daniel Howard and D. of Edmund Hayward 1784 and had Daniel 1785, Samuel 1786, Tiley (or Silence) 1788, Lavina 1790, Ann 1792, Dulcinia 1794.—Daniel m. Nicholas Wilbur 1809, and had Louisa 1809, Chas. Howard 1811, Barnabas 1813, Catherine 1815, George 1816.—Samuel m. Betsy, D. of Mark Lathrop 1811.—Tiley m. John Capen 1807.—Lavina m. Elijah Lathrop 1818.—Dulcinia m. Capt. Parley Keith 1821.

16. Ebenezer (s. of Jacob 10) m. Rebecca, D. of Dea. Joseph Copeland 1785, and had Martin 1787, Ebenezer 1788, Salmon 1791, Anna 1794, Charles Emanuel 1797, Vesta 1802, Nahum 1806.—Martin m. an Alger.

17. Jacob (s. of Jacob 10) m. Hannah, D. of Joseph Hayward 1794, and had Susanna 1795*, Avice 1797*, Hannah 1797, Olive 1801; he then m. Polly, D. of Ephraim Willis 1803, and had Stillman 1805, Jason 1809, Susanna or Sukey 1803, Samantha 1807, and Polly 1812.—Hannah m. Avery Lathrop 1819.

18. Jesse and his w. Mary had Polly 1766, Molly 1769, Rachel and Sarah 1771, Persis 1773, Lydia 1775*, Lydia 1776, Mehitabel 1778, Cate 1780, Jesse 1782, and Olive 1785.—Rachel m. David Allen, and Molly m. William Bonny, both at the same time 1796.—Mehitabel m. Calvin Dunbar.—Olive m. David Harvey, Jr., 1803.

19. Hosea Dunbar of Halifax m. Jennet Henry (or Hendrey) 1767; and one of his Ds., Betty, m. William Mitchell 1793; and another, Jennet, m. Allen Latham 1796 and afterwards Zephaniah Howard 1800.—Nanny Dunbar of H. m. Ebenezer Hall 1816.—Amie Dunbar m. Elias Sewell 1776.—Simeon Dunbar 2d of H. m. Azubah D. of Thomas Pratt 1813.—Polly Dunbar m. Timothy Drake 1789.—Bethiah Dunbar m. Apollos Randall 1796.—Sibil m. Elijah Pratt 1798.—Lese m. Benjamin Ager 1801.—David Dunbar, Jr., of Easton m. Harriet Bryant 1801. Samuel 3d m. Betsy Lathrop 1811.—Thomas Dunbar m. Hannah Thayer 1810.—Eliab Dunbar m. Lavina Hayford of M. 1793 and had Chloe 1794, Seth 1796, Cyrus 1798, Betsy 1800, Eliab 1802.—Sullivan Dunbar of Ab. m. Lydia Harden 1817.—Chloe m. Nahum Benson 1819.

NOTES AND QUERIES . . .

Mirek Romanowski, who describes himself as a 20-year-old university student, is particularly interested in studying Thoreau but finds very few of his works or works about him available in Poland. He would appreciate hearing from any of our members. His address is ul. Zielinskiego 73m.2 53-533 Wroclaw, Poland.

Thoreau's own autographed copy of Oswald's Etymological Dictionary has recently been presented to the Thoreau Society Archives by former society president G. Russell Rady.

Antique Country Furniture of North America by John Shea (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1975) includes (p. 180) plans for duplicating the bookcases that Thoreau made of driftwood which are now in the Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, Mass.

Collector's Corner: Goodspeed's Book Shop (7 Beacon St., Boston 02108) have an autograph letter of Feb. 8, 1850 speaking of lecturing on "Cape Cod" and of Emerson for sale.

Edmund Wilson, in a letter of May 20, 1929 to Allen Tate, says of the poet Louise Bogan,

"She . . . is all full of Thoreau."

While editing CAPE COD for the Princeton University Press Thoreau series, Joseph J. Moldenhauer has noticed certain textual variants among early reprintings of the Riverside (or "New Riverside") Edition of CAPE COD. To determine the chronology of these changes he requires further information from specific dated or datable copies. Members of the Thoreau Society are requested to communicate with Mr. Moldenhauer if their copies of the Riverside CAPE COD display any of the following features: (1) a titlepage date of MDCCCXCV, MDCCCXCVI, MDCCCXCVII, or MDCCCXCVIII (1895, 1896, 1897, or 1898); (2) no date on titlepage but a titlepage designation of the publisher as "Houghton, Mifflin and Company"--note the "and"; or (3) a titlepage designation of the publisher as "Houghton Mifflin Company" and evidence such as a dated manuscript inscription or a dated bill of sale that indicates the copy was acquired before 1915. Please address Prof. Moldenhauer at the Department of English, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

A recent exhibit at the Thoreau Lyceum, created by Malcolm Ferguson, featured nature designs on the bindings of Thoreau's works.

Gary Boy Roberts, "Additional Noted American Cousins of the Princess of Wales," in the December, 1985 Nexus, the Newsletter of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, lists Thoreau as a distant cousin through the Dunbar family.

Yoji Sato of Hirosaki, Japan, has presented to the Thoreau Society Archives a copy of his master's thesis "A Check List of Puns in 'Economy.'" The thesis was directed by Prof. Raymond Tripp of the University of Denver.

According to the Concord Journal of Dec. 26, 1985, a 26-inch, ten-pound trout was recently caught in Walden Pond

We grieve to note the recent death of essayist E.B.White whose writings led so many to the works of Thoreau.

The Oct. 17, 1983 issue of Der Spiegal in West Germany featured an article on "Revolt against Rockets" pointing out the influence of Thoreau on German practitioners of civil disobedience. And an East German anthology of quotations, Geflügelte Worte (Leipzig: VEB, 1981) quotes from "Civil Disobedience." A short story, "Die letzte Runde" by Wlfgang de Bruyn (Weimar: Aufbau-Verlag, 1983) has its protagonist quoting from Walden.

Vernon Pick, the American uranium millionaire, who is a Thoreau enthusiast, has an estate hidden in the mountains of British Columbia which he calls Walden North. It has recently been offered for sale for $3.4 million.

According to U.S.News & World Report for Oct. 28, 1985, in a recent poll, three fourths of current American high school seniors could not identify Thoreau.

Moe Mozier, owner of Henry David's restaurant in Keene, N.H., which is in the birthplace of Thoreau's mother, has given the local historical society a grant of $2,000 to establish a "Henry David Thoreau Research Program" and plans to make an additional grant each year on Thoreau's birthday.

Recycled Paper Products of Chicago, Ill., have recently issued a Thanksgiving greeting card featuring a quotation from Thoreau on thankfulness.

Mountain Bell Telephone is currently quoting Thoreau's "Our life is frittered away by detail...simplify, simplify" in their advertising of a newly simplified phone bill. It might be even simpler to take out the phone. Can you imagine Henry with a phone at Walden?

Jean Thoreau, Henry's father, on January 13, 1801, shortly before his death, gave a copy of Hannah More, A Stricture on the Modern System of Female Education (Charlestown: Samuel Etheridge, 1800, 2vol.) to the Charitable Society of Concord. It is now in the Concord Free Public Library.

The Concord Art Association, in a print competition commemorating Concord's 350th anniversary, awarded the prize to Robert Grady of Concord for his print "Concord Remembered," a portrait of Thoreau against a Concord landscape.

A recent New Yorker cartoon by Mankoff shows a boss telling his employee, "Relax, Bisler. You have nothing to fear except fear itself. And me, of course."

"I have often heard my old uncle, who lived to be ninety-three, tell of how he, as a boy, often went to Thoreau's cove at Walden Pond, and once ventured to the door of the Hermit's cabin and asked for a drink of water, to which Thoreau replied: 'My son, I drink the waters of the pond. If it is good enough for me, it is good enough for you.'"--Maud Appleton McDowell. The Joy of Memories. Dorset, Vt.: Privately printed, 1937. p.10.

According to Anthony Lukas (Common Ground, New York: Knopf, 1985, p. 539) Boston University's camp for underprivileged children in New Hampshire has one of its cabins named for Thoreau.

Two recently completed doctoral dissertations in England are M.F.Park, "Emerson and Thoreau: Romanticism and Religious Experience" at York University, and P.W.Laver, "Eclecticism, Contradiction and Integration: Social and Political Themes in the Writings of H.D.Thoreau" at Newcastle University.

A recent widely syndicated cartoon by Bill Hoest, entitled "The Lockhorns," shows a wife commenting on her husband asleep on a couch, "Leroy marches to the beat of a different drummer--a drummer who is out of town a lot."

Frederic Henry Hedge, in a letter to Margaret Fuller of January 5 & 12, 1843 (manuscript now at Harvard University) thought Thoreau's translation of Prometheus one of the few good things in the January, 1843, issue of the Dial.

Irving Howe will soon publish "The American Newness" on Thoreau and his friends.